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December 16, 2015

Mr. Michael P. Huerta, Administrator
Orville Wright Building (FOB10A)
Federal Aviation Administration
National Headquarters
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Mr. Huerta:

We are writing to request that you delay implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) until a working group of impacted cities and unincorporated communities in the San Gabriel Valley be formed to discuss concerns and develop a workable plan.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) claims NextGen will shorten routes, save time and fuel, and reduce traffic delays by allowing jetliners to be spaced much closer together in tighter new routes that are at lower altitudes. However, communities in the San Gabriel Valley have major concerns that NextGen will introduce louder, unrelenting jet noise in neighborhoods. Last week, the Los Angeles Times reported that the Bay Area, where NextGen has been implemented, saw a 2,706% surge in noise complaints. Elected officials and residents of the San Gabriel Valley are also concerned that NextGen was not vetted publicly. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, who represents parts of the San Gabriel Valley and sits on the House Transportation Committee, stated the FAA did not inform her of the plan until July. This is unacceptable and the FAA needs to delay implementation of the plan and form a working group with all impacted cities and unincorporated communities to vet the issues and develop a workable plan.

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Your consideration of this important request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



HILDA L. SOLIS
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District



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Supervisor, Fourth District



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